WASHINGTON STATE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Change in Washington Earnings, 1989-1999: A Report Based on the Census RESEARCH BRIEF NO. 27A

How Much Did Men and Women Work in 1999 Compared with 1989?

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In 1999, men were more likely to work full-time¹ than women, but the gap between male and female rates of full-time work declined slightly between 1989 and 1999 (see Table 1). From 1989 to 1999, women increased their rate of full-time work from 37 percent to 41 percent while men's rate of full-time work remained relatively constant. Between 1989 and 1999, the percentage of men without employment increased by 2 points.

Table 1 – Change in the Distribution of Adults Aged 18 to 64 by Sex and Work Level: 1989-1999

	1989	1999	1999-1989
Men			
No Earnings	9%	11%	2%
Part-Time	28%	25%	-2%
Full-Time	63%	64%	0%
Women			
No Earnings	24%	23%	-2%
Part-Time	39%	37%	-2%
Full-Time	37%	41%	4%

¹ Full-time work is defined as working 35 or more hours a week, 45 or more weeks a year, and having non-zero earnings. Part-time work is defined by non-zero earnings, and working less than 35 hours a week or less than 45 weeks a year. No earnings is simply defined as having zero earnings.

The Washington State data used in this analysis come from the 1990 and 2000 five percent Public Use Microdata Sample, (PUMS). More information on these surveys can be found at the Census website: http://www.census.gov/main/www/pums.html.